In the Specification
Please amend the specification beginning on page 1, line 1 and ending on page 2, line 24 as follows:

~~IP 4515~~

~~DESCRIPTION~~

FIELD OF INVENTION

The invention relates to an air spring with rolling bellows secured to a rolldown tube ~~of the type specified in the preamble of claim 1~~.

An air spring such as this is disclosed in DE 100 04 122 A1, for example. A rolling bellows is connected to a rolldown tube. The external surface of the rolling bellows comes in contact with the rolldown tube area by area with increasing compression. The rolldown tube consists of a base element and a jacket serving as a drainage element surrounding the base element. Formation of a film of moisture on the rolling bellows promoting corrosion is prevented by the drainage element. The drainage element consists of recesses or grooves or several openings made in the wall of the rolldown tube and ensures discharge by way of an opening or a plurality of openings arranged in the wall of the rolldown tube.

A generic air spring is disclosed in DE 100 60 824 A1 as well. The exterior of the rolldown tube, which is associated with the exterior of the rolling bellows, which is applied to the outer surface with the increasing compression of the air spring, is grooved, that is, provided with alternating recesses and projections. Reduction of the dead weight of the rolldown tube is achieved as a result of the grooving.

Springs of this type are used as vehicle spring systems chiefly in trucks for example but also in passenger automobiles. The forces exerted radially by the rolling bellows on the pressurized rolldown tube are absorbed by the exterior of the rolldown tube. The rolling bellows rolls up and down more or less on the exterior of the rolldown tube during the spring deflection process.

However, a problem encountered with this type of spring suspension is inadequate rolldown comfort in the area of higher frequency excitation—roughness, harshness behavior—due to dynamically high rigidities of the rolling bellows. Appreciable improvement in the rolldown comfort could be achieved on the basis of the state of the art by having the

rolling bellows supported on the outer circumference by a cylinder. Application of this measure makes it possible to employ much softer rolling bellows which do not exhibit the disturbing dynamic rigidification. Disadvantages are represented, of course, by an appreciably greater structural space requirement and the increase in weight due to the cylinder.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The object of the invention is further to develop an air spring with rolling bellows mounted on a rolldown tube ~~as specified in the preamble of claim 1~~ in such a way that the rolldown behavior is improved and the vibrations occurring over the rolling bellows during compression are reduced while the disadvantages referred to are avoided.

This object is attained by the characteristics specified in the independent claim in connection with the features specified in the preamble of this article.

The dependent claims specify advantageous developments of the invention.

On page 4, line 22, please insert the following section heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 5, line 2, please insert the following section heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION